

**Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 3677**

PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 040894-7418

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: |) |
| |) |
| Hiroshi Sato |) Confirmation No.: 2394 |
| |) |
| Application No. 10/571,070 |) Group Art Unit: 3677 |
| |) |
| Filed: March 8, 2006 |) Examiner: G. W. Estremsky |
| |) |
| For: CONNECTED STAPLE |) Mail Stop AF |
| |) |

Commissioner for Patents
Customer Window, **Mail Stop AF**
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

do not enter gwe 11/24/09

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Final Office Action dated October 6, 2009, the period for response to which extends through January 6, 2010, entry of the following amendments is respectfully requested to place the application in clear condition for allowance or, alternatively, in better form for appeal.